



STATE OF MAINE
Department of Public Safety
Gambling Control Board
87 State House Station
Augusta, Maine
04333-0087

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR
MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

STEVEN SILVER
CHAIRMAN
MILTON CHAMPION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gambling Control Board
Minutes of May 16, 2023 Board Meeting
Held in person at Gambling Control Conference Room & online via Zoom application

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Steven Silver called the meeting to order at 9:02 am in person & via Zoom application online.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steven Silver, Board Chair
Chief Noel March

Sari Greene (remote)
Joseph Hanslip (remote)

STAFF PRESENT

Milton Champion, Executive Director
Matthew Motti, Deputy Director
Det. Don Armstrong, MSP
Vicki Gardner, Inspector Supervisor
Mallory Reilly, Office Specialist
Alex Joutov, Auditor
Amanda Spencer, Auditor

Jennifer Willis, Assistant Attorney General
Philip Mantis, Assistant Attorney General

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

March 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes approval

Board member Sari Greene moved to approve the March 2023 meeting minutes. Board Chair Steve Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea

4 in favor, the motion passed.

OPERATIONS REPORT – Inspector Vicki Gardner

In March 2023 there were 20 shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 687 observations and 32 checklists. There were 15 self-exclusions. There were 8 minor violations that will continue to be monitored from the Unit's activity log. There were 0 patron complaints and there were 2 formal complaints of potential violation placed on the dashboard.

Oxford Casino had 31 calls for service to Oxford PD, 9 in the parking lot, 4 in the hotel or lobby, and 18 in the casino, including disorderly conduct, assault, trespass, drugs, arrest on a warrant, possible suicidal patron, violation of protection order, 911 hang-ups, intoxicated subjects, unwanted people, and officer walk throughs. Hollywood Casino had 30 calls for service to Bangor PD, 2 in the parking garage or outside, 3 in the hotel or lobby, and 25 in the casino, including drugs, trespass, fraud, family fight, subpoena, suspicious activity, multiple people wanted out, 911 hang ups, welfare checks, and vagrancy.

In April 2023 there were 11 shipments of machines and/or associated equipment shipped to or from licensed facilities. On site inspectors completed 716 observations and 35 checklists. There were 13 self-exclusions. There were 8 minor violations that will continue to be monitored from the Unit's activity log. There were 0 patron complaints; and there was 1 formal complaint of potential violation placed on the dashboard.

Oxford Casino had 18 calls for service to Oxford PD, 5 in the parking lot, and 13 were casino related, including threats, wanted out 911 hang-ups, Intoxicated subjects, unwanted people, possible suicidal subject, bail violations, and officer walk throughs. Hollywood Casino had 18 calls for service to Bangor PD, 6 in the parking garage or outside, 1 in the hotel or lobby, and 11 in the casino, including drugs, trespass, fraud, multiple people wanted out, 911 hang ups, welfare checks, and vagrancy.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Amanda Spencer

For the month of March, the casinos reported a 2.36% increase in revenue collected versus March 2022. For the month of April, the casinos reported a 6.48% decrease in revenue collected versus April 2022. Year to date the Unit has identified an increase of 3.09% versus last year at the same time. Total revenue collected year to date is \$22,739,705.06.

Oxford reported an 8.06% win for the month of March and 7.69% for the month of April from slots. As for table games, Oxford reported 20.25% win in March and 29.40% in April. Average gross win per machine was \$267.18 in March and \$259.47 in April.

Hollywood reported an 8.66% win for the month of March and 8.85% for the month of April from slots and 13.15% win from table games in March and 21.78% in April. Average gross win per machine was \$234.61 in March and \$227.54 in April.

In the Advance Deposit Wagering the Unit has identified a decrease of 8.7% for the month of March compared to March 2022. For the month of April, Advance Deposit Wagering activity decreased by 10.0% compared to April 2022. Year to date revenue collected from out of state and in state races was \$79,658.25, which was a decrease of 1.9% versus last year at the same time.

Board members asked why the decrease in revenue compared to the same time last year. Both Casinos agreed that this time last year Covid 19 restrictions were lifting and the public was

eager to get out and enter the Casinos which created record revenue increases, so these numbers are a comparison period rather than a decline.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Milton Champion began by introducing the Unit's new Deputy Director, Matthew Motti. Mr. Motti comes to us from Florida.

Director Champion updated the Board on the status for LD 504 and LD 731, both bills are currently in the legislatures queue. LD 1777 which is an i-gaming bill allowing for only the four tribes in Maine to have and be regulated by the Department or the Unit, Director Champion will be asking for the regulatory oversight be directed to the Gambling Control Board who regulates Casinos and not to the Unit or the Executive Director position, as this will be more appropriate linking both Casino and I-gaming activities together. LD1944 requires the State to negotiate with any federally recognized Indian Tribe in the State for a license to operate a casino. Director Champion will monitor this bill but with only a month left in this Legislative session, he is unsure of how much ground this bill will cover, and he will update the Board at the July meeting.

Legacy Letters went out to 142 people, as of today the Unit has received 6 calls from patrons asking how to be removed from a casino's legacy list, 58 came back as undeliverable and 78 have not responded.

Director Champion clarified what is to be expected from licensees when accompanying their applications with their most recent tax returns. Copies of their actual returns or Government letterhead notifications must be received in PDF, screenshots and pictures of documents are no longer accepted.

LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

(Renewal) Everi Payments Inc. – Gambling Service Vendor

Board member Noel March moved to approve Everi Payments Inc. as a Gambling Services Vendor in the State of Maine. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea

4 in favor, the motion passed.

(Renewal) Konami Gaming Inc. – Slot Machine Distributor

Board member Noel March moved to approve Konami Gaming Inc. as a Slot Machine Distributor in the State of Maine. Board Chair Steve Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea

Steven Silver: Yea
4 in favor, the motion passed.

(Initial) Connections IT – Gambling Services Vendor

Brody Carlson presented to the Board a brief background summary on Connections IT and what services they will offer to the Casinos in Maine.

Board member Noel March moved to approve Connections IT as a gambling Services Vendor in the State of Maine. Board Member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea
4 in favor, the motion passed.

(Initial) Galaxy Gaming Inc. – Table Games Distributor

Board member Noel March moved to table the approval of Galaxy Gaming Inc. as a table game distributor in the State of Maine until later in the meeting because there was no one from the company present at that time. Board member Joseph Hanslip seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea
4 in favor, the motion passed to TABLE the approval.

Revisited later in the meeting when Harry Hagerty, CFO was present-

Board member Noel March moved to approve Galaxy Gaming Inc. as a table game distributor in the State of Maine. Board member Charmaine Brown seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea
The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Patron A – Reinstatement Request from self-exclusion list

The Board was unable to view the files related to the request and a detailed explanation from the patron was missing.

Board chair Steve Silver moved to table Patron A's request for reinstatement until the next meeting. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.

Patron B – Reinstatement Request from self-exclusion list

The Board asked the Unit to seek further clarification and detail from the patron regarding prior attempts to enter Hollywood Casino while on the exclusion list. The patron has changed their name since excluding and the subsequent entries were under the new name. Austin Muchemore offered the casino's files for an incident where the patron entered the casino. The Board would like to see the definition of a "detailed explanation" explain how much information is sufficient for them to make a decision.

Board member Noel March moved to go back to Patron B to find out more detailed information about what happened when the attempts to access was made under the other name, as well as a more detailed explanation on the current request with the possibility that staff also request the casino's file on the incident. Board Chair Steve Silver seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.

Patron C – Reinstatement Request from self-exclusion list

The Board felt that this detailed explanation was sufficient.

Board member Noel March moved to approve Patron C's request to be removed from the self-exclusion list. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: Yea
Noel March: Yea
Joseph Hanslip: Yea
Steven Silver: Yea

The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.

Consent Agreement GCB 2022-77

AAG Jennifer Willis presented a brief background on this case which included two individuals under the age of 21 accessing the gambling floor at Hollywood Casino for a period of 33 minutes. The minors did not game, but one of the minors drank a small amount of alcohol provided by the adult who accompanied the minors into the casino. The agreement imposes a warning for violation 8 MRS § 1031(2).

Board member Noel March moved to approve Consent agreement GCB 2022-77. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Moved to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: **Yea**
Noel March: **Yea**
Joseph Hanslip: **Yea**
Steven Silver: **Yea**

The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.

The approval of Galaxy Gaming continued at this time.

BOARD BUSINESS – Chair Steve Silver reminded the Board that the National Public Health Emergency due to Covid has ended on May 11th and a remote participation policy was adopted. Meetings will be held in person except for instances of a declaration of an emergency or urgent issue by the Chair in consultation with the Executive Director or by the Governor of the State of Maine, illness or other physical condition of a Board member or family member which causes difficulties in traveling or temporary absence, or geographic characteristics that would impact travel.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Oxford Casino GM Matthew Gallagher presented to Lori Manson, of AdCare, an award as part of their “Give for Change” program, where guests donate their unredeemed TITO and/or redemption tickets to the charity of the month. In the month of March, Oxford Casino partnered with AdCare in honor of Responsible Gaming Month. 100% of the money collected goes to the charity/non-profit.

ADJOURNMENT

Board member Noel March moved to adjourn the Gambling Control Board meeting. Board member Sari Greene seconded the motion. Motion moves to roll call.

Members

Sari Greene: **Yea**
Charmaine Brown: **Yea**
Noel March: **Yea**
Steven Silver: **Yea**

The motion passed 4 in favor, motion passes.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 AM. The next Board meeting will be held on July 18, 2023, at 9:00am via Zoom. Chair Silver will confirm the format prior to that date.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mallory Reilly

Office Specialist I

Board approved: